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PATENT CASE NO. IN01023K

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Clifford A. Brass, : Examiner: Janet L. Andres
et al,

For Patent For: HCV COMBINATION : Group Art No. 1646
THERAPY

Serial No. 09/551,341 :

Filed: 04/18/2000 :

Assistant to Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Schering-Plough Corporation
Kenilworth, New Jersey 07033

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

JAN 29 2003

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

SIR:

This is in response to the Advisory Action dated November 19, 2002, denying entry of the Amendment dated October 17, 2002, filed October 22, 2002.

Applicants are amending this applicant under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.114.

Entry of this amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, reconsideration, and withdrawal of the grounds of rejection are respectfully requested.

A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal sheet, an Information Disclosure Statement, and PTO form 1449 (two references), a Petition and Fee for an One Month Extension of Time, and a Reply Postcard are enclosed with this Preliminary Amendment.